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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /046 W
----------068665 101954Z /64
R 100845Z AUG 77
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4855
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TBAGHDAD 1341

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ARN
JIDDA FOR WILEY ONLY
TEHRAN FOR RSO ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, IZ
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYEE

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 1229, (B) BAGHDAD 1038

1. USINT RECEIVED AUGUST 8 A FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE DATED AUGUST 4 WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS: "...AND HAS THE HONOR TO INFORM IT THAT NO APPROVAL WAS OBTAINED FOR THE IRAQI CITIZEN, ABBAS ALI SOUZA, TO TRAVEL TO AMERICA AND THAT THE REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF HIS EMIGRATION IS CONSIDERED AN INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF IRAQ." NOTE WAS SIGNED BY THE D.G. OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS.

2. NOTE MAKES NO REFERENCE TO OUR NOTE ON THE SUBJECT (REF. B), WHICH SIMPLY ASKED FOR ASSISTANCE IN FINDING SOUSA'S WHEREABOUTS. REFERENCE TO "REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF HIS EMIGRATION" PROBABLY REFERS TO FORMER PRINCIPAL OFFICER WILEY'S CONVERSATION OF MAY 24 WITH
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DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS ZAHAWI, BUT THIS IS NOT CLEAR. SOUSA'S DESIRE TO EMIGRATE HAS NEVER BEEN A SECRET, BUT WE HAVE NOT MENTIONED IT SINCE THE CONVERSATION OF MAY 24.

3. I RECOMMEND WE REPLY TO NOTE ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "OPENING COMPLIMENTS ... AND HAS THE HONOR TO

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REFER TO THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 8/6/71/83665 OF
AGUST 4 AND THE EMBASSY'S NOTE NO. 282 OF JUNE 20,
1977 CONCERNING ABBAS ALI SOUSA. IN ITS NOTE THE
EMBASSY REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN LOCATING MR. SOUSA,
A REQUEST WHICH IS STILL PENDING. THE MINISTRY WILL
UNDERSTAND THE EMBASSY'S NORMAL CONCERN FOR THE WEL-
FARE OF ONE OF ITS EMPLOYEES, WHO DISAPPEARED WHILE
ON DUTY WITH THE EMBASSY AND WHO HAS BEEN ABSENT
WITHOUT EXPLANATION FOR NEARLY TWO MONTHS. THE
MINISTRY'S REFERENCE TO A REQUEST FOR MR. SOUSA'S
EMIGRATION IS ONE THE EMBASSY DOES NOT FULLY
UNDERSTAND, NOR DOES IT UNDERSTAND THE REFERENCE TO
AN INTERVENTION IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF IRAQ,
SOMETHING THE EMBASSY HAS NO INTENTION OF DOING.
THE EMBASSY DOES, HOWEVER, RENEW ITS REQUEST FOR
INFORMATION REGARDING THE WHEREABOUTS OF ITS EMPLOYEE.
CLOSING COMPLIMENTS."

4. AN ALTERNATE COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE FOR ME TO
VISIT D.G. OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS TO MAKE ABOVE POINTS
ORALLY AND SEEK CLARIFICATION. SINCE THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY IS ALMOST CERTAINLY BEING KEPT AT ARMS LENGTH
ON THE SOUSA CASE I AM INCLINDED TO FAVOR A WRITTEN
COMMUNICATION WHICH WILL REACH THE RESPONSIBLE IRAQI
AUTHORITIES WITHOUT DISTORTION. I WOULD APPRECIATE
MARSHALL WILEY'S VIEWS ON THIS LATEST TWIST AND
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SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT PROVIDE ME WITH INSTRUCTIONS
ONLY AFTER HEARING FROM EMBASSY JIDDA.
MACK

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770878/aaaacojv.tel
Line Count: 97
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Litigation History:
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Review Content Flags:
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: DETENTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYEE
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